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SYRUP OF FIGS



ONE ENJOYS

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WASHINGTON NEWS.

Latest Report From the Agricultural Department.

CONDITION OF WINTER GRAIN.

An Advance of One Point During the Month of April—No State Average Less than Ninety-Three—Effect of the Frost. Small Fruit Damaged—Other Dispatches from the National Capital.

WASHINGTON, May 11.—The condition of winter grain on the 1st of May is reported by the statistician of the department of agriculture as follows: Wheat, 97.9; rye, 97.2; barley, 96.2. This is an advance in wheat of one point during April, and of quite as much in rye. A gain in wheat is reported in New York, in some of the southern states, in Michigan, and slight improvement in Illinois, Missouri and some other states. The uniformity of condition is somewhat remarkable, no state average being lower than 93.

The condition of mowing lands is also high, averaging 97, ranging from 90 to 100. The average for spring pasture is 98, ranging from 92 to 100, except a drop in Utah to 89, and in New Mexico to 83. The eastern slope of the Rocky mountains comes within four or five points of full condition, and the Pacific coast is near the maximum.

The progress of spring plowing has been greatly retarded by excess of moisture in the central and southern belts. The portion planted is reported at 68.8 per cent. The average of several previous years has been 77 per cent. The eastern states reports favorable conditions for spring work and fair progress to date. In all the southern states it has been delayed by heavy rains, and later by drought, which has rendered plowing difficult and imperfect.

In the Ohio valley excess of moisture delayed plowing through March and interfered with its progress in some places during the first two weeks of April. The work has progressed rapidly since, and germination has generally been prompt. In the northwest the season has been favorable. Spring work is well advanced and spring grain coming up and growing finely.

An investigation has been made of the effects of frost on the 5th and 6th of May. Telegrams have been received from state agents showing that very general damage has resulted to strawberries and early vegetables; some injury to grapes and cherries, and peaches to some extent.

In the east and north it was too early to injure peaches; in the Ohio valley it is thought it may cause dropping of growing fruit. The fruit belt of western Michigan is said to have received little injury though the damage has been serious, especially to small fruits and vegetables in other parts of Michigan. Nearly all unite in saying that no injury to the growing crops has occurred. A brisk wind and dry air favored the New Jersey orchards, and the loss of peaches and apples will not be so serious as was feared. The Maryland agent reports loss of strawberries and early vegetables, with no injury to grain and none to apples, peaches or plums, as mentioned. The damage to the peach belt is apparently not so serious as was at first reported.

Murdered by Highbinders.

WASHINGTON, May 11.—James Marr, United States chief inspector at El Paso, Tex., writes to the treasury department under date of El Paso, Tex., May 1, that a Chinaman, name not given, in the employ of the United States, had recently been murdered at Paso del Norte, Mex., by Chinese Highbinders. The Chinaman was employed by Inspector Marr to assist him in detecting Chinamen crossing the border from Mexico and entering the United States in violation of the Chinese exclusion act. He was a laundryman and resided at Paso del Norte in Mexico.

Demand for Dimes.

WASHINGTON, May 11.—The demand for dimes upon the United States treasury is so great that it cannot be met. Within the past ten days \$174,000 in dimes has been shipped and orders for \$60,000 are now awaiting to be filled. There has been ordered smelted and coined into dimes at the several sub-treasuries \$231,000 of debased silver coin.

Small Town Destroyed by Fire.

LUDINGTON, Mich., May 11.—Walker-ville, a small town in Oceana county, the terminus of Butlers' and Peters' logging camp, was almost totally destroyed by forest fires yesterday afternoon. The hotel, stores, livery barn, saloons blacksmithshop and all but a few dwellings went up in smoke. Five hundred thousand cords of wood logs were also burned. Fires are raging in the woods over the country and doing incalculable damage. Kit Zinger's mill at Fresoil was also destroyed by forest fires.

Murdered His Wife.

PITTSBURG, May 11.—James Stewart, of Chartiersborough, murdered his wife Mary, aged 30, Saturday night. Stewart came home drunk at supper time. He terrified his wife with curses, and when she tried to escape threw a burning lamp at her. The lamp struck her on the breast, exploding and burning the woman so severely that she died Sunday after a night of awful agony. Stewart was brought to Pittsburgh and locked up.

The Mine Still Burning.

LANSDOWN, Pa., May 11.—All efforts to smother the fire in the Lehigh Coal company's No. 4 colliery, at Summit Hill, have proved unavailing. It is believed that the missing miner Hugh Sharp has perished. Preparations have been made to flood the mine, but this means of extinguishing the fire will only be resorted to after all others fail.

LOOKS LIKE MAFIA WORK.

Italian About to Sail for Italy Seized and Stifled.

NEW YORK, May 11.—A stabbing affray, which bears a strong resemblance to the work of the Mafia, occurred Friday night in the Italian quarter in West Hoboken. Almost the only things definitely known about the case are the name of the man who was stabbed and the probabilities that his wounds are dangerous. There is one wound in his breast and another in his neck, both made with a stiletto.

The victim is Louis Peretti, a silk weaver, who boarded in Spring street. He had given up his employment and made arrangements to sail for Italy Saturday. On Friday evening he was the center of a group of excited Italians, who were talking and gesticulating at West and Hague streets. Suddenly two of the Italians seized him, one on each side, and a third plunged a stiletto into his breast and neck. Some of the other Italians interfered and saved him from being murdered outright.

Justice Schaefer, of Union Hill, who was a witness of the scene, sent for a policeman, but before the messenger could find one Peretti's assailants were released by their companions and had disappeared, running in the direction of Jersey City. Policeman Vermorel followed them for a short distance, but soon gave up the chase.

Peretti refused to disclose the name of his assailants or make any complaint against them. The West-Hoboken police hold that this relieves them from any responsibility in the matter, and they will not make any effort to capture the murderous Italians.

A resident of the Italian quarter advanced the theory yesterday that Peretti was possessed of some secret that his assailants feared he might divulge when he reached Italy, and they decided to kill him.

ATTACKED BY A BULLDOG

A Little Boy Terribly Mangled by the Vicious Brute.

LONDON, O., May 11.—The little 5-year-old son of Andrew McClimans, of Range township, this county, had a terrible experience with a ferocious bulldog. The little fellow, together with his cousin, a little girl of the same age, attempted to enter the gate of a neighbor, Mike Ryan, when a vicious bulldog seized the boy and began to shake him like a rat. Before assistance was at hand the dog literally chewed the flesh of the boy from his knees to his head.

The women of the house ran to his rescue and succeeded in getting the boy on the fence, when the blood-thirsty brute again sprang upon him and pulled him to the ground, lacerating his victim in a terrible manner. At length, after great difficulty, the dog was forced to release his hold and the boy was got into the house with the flesh nearly all torn from his body. Dr. Welch, of Mt. Sterling, was summoned and says there is little hope of the boy's recovery. The little companion of the boy had her arm also badly bitten by the infuriated brute.

ALLEGED MEDIUM EXPOSED.

People Living in the Suburbs of Indianapolis Badly Taken In.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 11.—Thomas Winans, an alleged medium, has been gulling the people of the suburbs for several weeks in alleged seances, and some of those who have recently lost relatives by death, became so impressed by the return of their relatives, that their friends feared for their sanity.

They determined to expose Winans, and on Saturday night they put their plans into execution. A number of them attended the seance, and while the dead husband of one of the believers was talking to her a match was struck. The dead husband proved to be Winans himself, who had untied himself after the room was darkened and had appeared to a dozen of the deceased relative with whom they were anxious to communicate. The police entered the room at the moment of the exposure and compelled Winans to return the money which he had received from his dupes.

TERRIBLE MARINE DISASTER.

Steamer With Colonists from Washington Goes Down in Juan De Fuca Straits.

TACOMA, Wash., May 11.—The steamer Lucy Lowe has foundered in the Straits of Juan de Fuca with fifty-five colonists. The party, numbering fifty-six, left Tacoma April 21 to settle on land near the mouth of the Gustavus river, but were beaten back by high seas and became short of food.

John N. Grant, of Tacoma, the only survivor, returned here yesterday. He believes the entire party have been lost. A search party is being fitted out.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., May 11.—The fight between Tommy White and George Siddons, both of Chicago, to decide the feather-weight championship of the northwest and for stakes of \$1,000 attracted a crowd of over 1,000 persons to the Princess rink in this city Saturday night. Little fighting was done in the first four rounds. In the fifth round White struck Siddons a heavy blow on the ear drawing blood. First blood was claimed for White and allowed. In the sixth round the men clinched. At the breakaway White got a terrible right hander on the mouth which started the blood flowing. Little damage was done in the remaining rounds, the fighting being of a scientific nature. In the forty-seventh round White hit Siddons a heavy blow on the jugular knocking him down. This was the only knockdown in the fight. In the forty-ninth round the fight was declared a draw.

Freight Train Wrecked.

MINNEAPOLIS, May 11.—A freight train on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul road near Dubuque, Iowa, jumped the track yesterday morning. The engine and six cars were derailed. Engineer James Richmond was killed and the fireman and brakeman were seriously injured.

THE UTAH VALLEY.

President Harrison and Party Homeward Bound.

STRONGHOLD OF MORMONISM.

A Number of Cities of Utah Visited, Which Vie With Each Other in Doing Honors to the President—Speeches Made by the President—Sunday Spent in Colorado.

CASTLE GATE, Utah, May 11.—The journey of the presidential party from Salt Lake through the fertile Utah valley, the stronghold of the Mormon church, was marked by a continuous ovation. Stops were made at Lehi, American Fork, Provo and Springville, where large crowds cheered the president heartily. Provo turned out more than a 1,000 people, including the school children of the town. In the course of his remarks there, the president said:

"I am glad to see these dear children here, coming from the free schools of your city. The public school is the most wholesome and hopeful institution. It has an assimilating power possessed by no other institution in our country. When children of the rich and the poor mingle together on the play-ground and in the school room, there is produced a unity of feeling and a popular love for public institutions, which can be brought about in no other way [cheers]. God bless and protect your public schools until every child in your territory shall be gathered into them." [Cheers.]

At Springville, Governor Thomas, Delegate Cain and other prominent citizens of the territory, who met the president in Idaho, left the party. The train arrived here at 4:50 p. m., and the president addressed a large crowd at the station.

THE PRESIDENT'S SUNDAY.

An Expected Day of Rest Not Realized. Welcome to Glenwood Springs.

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, Col., May 11.—The expectation of the president that he would have a quiet Sabbath at Glenwood Springs was not realized. The presidential train arrived here during the night and the party remained on board until 7 o'clock Sunday morning, when large delegations from Denver, Colorado Springs and Pueblo came to escort them to the Hotel Glenwood. In the delegations were Governor Routt, ex-Senators Hill and Tabor, Congressman Townsend, Chief Justice Helm, Hon. S. N. Allen, of Denver; Mayor Sprague, of Colorado Springs, a delegation from Pueblo and a large number of other persons from those three places. Governor Routt stepped forward, and in an informal manner welcomed the president to Colorado and Mayor Hodges, of this town, welcomed him to Glenwood Springs and presented him with an engraved plate composed of silver and gold, bearing the arms of Colorado and appropriately inscribed. Aspen people also presented the president with a beautiful silver souvenir bearing the inscription "Free Coinage, Honest Money."

At Glenwood hotel the party had breakfast, after which the president and ex-Senator Hill took a walk. At 11 o'clock the president, Mr. Wanamaker, Mrs. McKee, Mrs. Boyd and Mr. Hill attended the Presbyterian church, and on conclusion of the services the president returned to his room in the hope of getting a little rest. He anticipated passing the day in strolling about town and resting, but excursionists from Aspen, Pueblo, Leadville and other places, one contingent headed by a brass band, began pouring into town before noon and the streets were so crowded with people that the president decided to forego the stroll, and went to a mass meeting of Sunday school children at the opera house, where he and Mr. Wanamaker delivered addresses.

In this speech President Harrison said he came to Glenwood Springs for rest, but he felt he could not deny himself to the large body of friends before him. In conclusion he said: "Men should have one free day in which to think of their families, of themselves, of things that are not material but are spiritual. [Applause] I desire to express from a sincere, earnest heart my thanks to you all for your kindness, giving you in return simply the pledge that I will, at all times, keep in mind what seems to me to be the true interests of the people. [Applause] I have no thought of sections; I have no thought upon any of these great public questions that does not embrace theology and interests of all our people, and all our states. [Applause] I believe we shall find a common interest and safe ground upon all these great questions by moderating our own views and making reasonable and just concessions we shall find them all settled wisely and in the true interests of the people. [Applause.]

In the afternoon Mrs. Harrison was presented by a delegation from Leadville with a miner's candle stick of silver and with other souvenirs and each lady in the party was given a box of native mineral specimens. After consultation with Mr. Boyd, the Pennsylvania railroad official in charge of the party, and Mr. S. K. Hooper, of the Denver and Rio Grande, the president decided to have the party taken to some quieter spot on the line of the Denver and Rio Grande, and accordingly at 6 o'clock in the evening the train steamed out of Glenwood Springs.

Sidetracked for the Night.

GYPSUM, Col., May 11.—The presidential train was sidetracked last night at this place twenty-four miles from Glenwood Springs. It left for Leadville at 2 o'clock this morning.

Sir John Lubbock kept a queen bee for fifteen years, a test proving her eggs to be just as fertile as that age as they were twelve years before.

FOREST FIRES.

Great Destruction Being Done in the Pennsylvania Oil Fields.

BRADFORD, Pa., May 4.—A special from Kane, Pa., to The Era, says since 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon a destructive forest fire has been eating its way through the Kane oil fields destroying the best part of the northern half of the producing territory. C. W. Schofield and Koester's property on lot 385 is entirely consumed. Steithheimer & Company, on the Brown lease, lose sixteen rigs. Two-thirds of J. P. Cappeau lease, owned by Preston and others, is in ashes.

At this hour the fire continues with unabated fury, advancing northeasterly on lots 384, 385, 420 and 421. Another furious fire is advancing on Porter pump station from the south and northwest. Hundreds of men are in different parts of the field fighting the fire. A high wind makes their efforts futile. The village of West Kane is threatened with destruction.

Advices just received from Keating Summit, Pa., state that the most disastrous forest fires known for fifty years are raging within a short distance of Austin, in the immense timber tract of F. C. & M. W. Goodyear, of this city. The fire was discovered Sunday morning. Thirty million feet of timber and thirty cords of bark were burned within ten miles of the railroad track. Telegraph and telephone service is badly crippled, and it will be impossible to get details until to-morrow.

FOREST FIRES IN MICHIGAN.

Several Villages Entirely Destroyed and Others in Great Danger.

DETROIT, May 11.—Each additional report from the region of the forest fires show that the damage instead of being exaggerated has been underestimated. Morely, Mecosta county, telegraphed yesterday that Altona, a small village ten miles from there was in ashes. Big Rapids, Mecosta county, reports that bad fires are raging in several places in the county. A report from Bear Lake, a small settlement in the northern part of the county, states that several houses were set on fire by sparks blowing in from the forest, fully half a mile away, and the people were driven into the lake for shelter.

Harrison, the capital of Clare county, has had twenty-four hours of imminent danger, and summoned help from Clare and other villages. Clinton, a small station on the Toledo, Ann Arbor and North Michigan railroad, was wiped out yesterday afternoon. Wagner & Pierce had two million feet of logs, and Hyde Brothers one million feet, burned. Farwell was burned yesterday, with all the houses in the settlement.

Railway Station Destroyed.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., May 11.—The Chicago and West Michigan station at Shields, near White Cloud, was destroyed by forest fires Saturday. Eighteen Chicago and West Michigan freight cars were burned at Lilley Junction. At Brightley, on the Chicago and West Michigan, 2,000,000 feet of logs owned by Dunsmuir, Bolinder & Company, of Muskegon, were also destroyed.

CENTER OF POPULATION.

The Chicago Herald Dedicates a Monument to Mark the Spot.

GREENSBURG, Ind., May 11.—In honor of its birthday, The Chicago Herald yesterday dedicated a monument of Bedford stone to mark the center of population of the United States.



THE CENTERS IN DIFFERENT DECADES.

At the present time the center of population of the United States is ten miles from Greensburg, Ind., in latitude 39 degrees, 11 minutes, 56 seconds, and longitude 85 degrees, 32 minutes, 53 seconds, and is exactly on a straight line with the first marked out, east of Baltimore, one hundred years ago. Ten thousand people from all parts of Decatur county, Ind., witnessed the dedicatory exercises.

DOWN A MOUNTAIN'S SIDE.

Frightful Rush of a Cattle Train, Resulting in Killing 360 Animals.

TRINIDAD, Col., May 11.—A serious wreck occurred on the Santa Fe road, several miles west of here, last night. A freight train of twenty cars, loaded with cattle, started down the Raton Mountain, but became unmanageable because the air brakes failed to work. The train gained a frightful speed, and while turning a sharp curve the engine and tender broke away from the train, and sixteen cars went over an embankment twenty feet high, smashing the cars into kindling-mood and killing 360 cattle.

Breakman J. M. Kurns was slightly hurt, and four tramps, stealing their way over the road, are reported buried in the wreck. The four last cars of the train are the only ones that remained on the track. The road is torn up for several hundred feet, and the loss to the company is estimated at \$25,000.

GUTHRIE, O. T., May 1.—The south-bound train on the Santa Fe road was held up last night about 11:30 o'clock by five masked men. The gang is supposed to have been the notorious Dalton boys, who have been seen in this neighborhood recently. They boarded the train at Wharton and detached the engine and express car and then proceeded two miles south and robbed the express car of all the money it contained. It is believed that the amount stolen is not very large. The passengers were not molested.